
MICHIGAN ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Executive Committee Minutes

September 14, 2021

9 am to 10:30 am

Westin Book Cadillac – 1114 Washington Blvd. Detroit, MI
Founders Room A and via Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Members Present & Location of Virtual Attendance:

Bobby Hopewell	Fritz Erickson
Kyle Caldwell	Bill Pink
Scott Newman-Bale	Mike McLauchlan
Tom Lutz	Ryan Waddington
Dave Meador	Chris MacInnes
Awenate Cobbina	Krista Flynn
Bob McMahan, Flint, MI	Jeff Noel, Frankfurt, KY
Sheldon Neeley, Flint, MI	Fay Beydoun

Members Absent:

Beth Ardisana	April Clobes
Phil Shaltz	

Staff Present:

Steve Bakkal	Michele Wildman
Quentin Messer	Amiee Evans
Christin Armstrong	Jill Trepkoski
Lynne Feldpausch	Doug Kuiper
	Josh Hundt

I. Call to order

Mr. Cobbina called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. He requested that Ms. Armstrong provide any necessary communications, there were none. A roll call was performed to determine attendance and a quorum was declared present. The meeting was in the Founders Room A at the Westin Book Cadillac at 1114 Washington Blvd. Detroit, MI. Members of the Executive Committee, MEDC staff, and the general public could also participate virtually via Microsoft Teams due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

II. Public Comment

Mr. Cobbina invited public comment on both the annual budget approval and general public comment, there was none.

III. Chairman's Report

- a. Mr. Cobbina welcomed the Committee to Detroit and thanked the members of the Executive Committee that were willing and able to travel to attend the meeting in person. He welcomed Quentin Messer to his first in person meeting.

- b. Mr. Cobbina asked if there were any questions, changes, or corrections regarding the July 20, 2021, minutes. Mr. Newman Bale noted that within the notes he was in Antrim County. That correction was made. *Mr. Caldwell moved to approve the amended minutes of the July 20, 2021, meeting and Ms. MacInnes supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 15 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.*

IV. CEO Report

Mr. Messer provided an overview of the fiscal year 2022 strategic plan and vision for the organization. He noted that we need to continue to align around the five strategic focus areas. Mr. Steve Bakkal provided an overview on the fiscal year 2022 draft outcomes based on our strategic focus areas. Ms. Jill Trepkoski provided an overview of the proposed fiscal year 2022 budget. The fiscal 2022 budget includes a total funding request not to exceed \$77,953,300.

At 9:25 am, Fay Beydoun joined the meeting.

At 10:15 am, Fritz Erickson & Bob McMahan left the meeting.

V. Finance Subcommittee

Ms. Chris MacInnes reported that the Subcommittee is pleased to present a budget recommendation that is aligned to the strategic plan. Mr. Meador asked about the increases in tribal gaming revenues. Ms. Trepkoski reported that gaming revenues were up, largely due to the increase of online gaming in Michigan. Mr. Hopewell and Mr. Caldwell stated that the MEDC should be aggressive and creative in using corporate funds to address talent and equity issues. Dr. Pink echoed those comments and expressed his appreciation for the focus on talent and equity. He suggested overlaying the talent initiatives with the equity initiatives. Mr. Hopewell expressed that the MEDC should push entrepreneurship and innovation activities, so the state does not fall further behind. Mr. Caldwell commented that entrepreneurship and innovation is in a vulnerable position because it is almost entirely dependent on state appropriations. *Mr. Hopewell moved to approve the fiscal 2022 corporate budget; Dr. Pink supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 13 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.*

VI. Personnel & Compensation Subcommittee

Mr. Jeff Noel provided a brief update and requested Ms. Lynne Feldpausch provide an update on the corporate compensation plan updates including compensation review and cost of living adjustment updates.

VII. Strategic Planning Subcommittee

Dr. Bill Pink provided a summary of the requested strategic plan focus area targets. He noted that the Subcommittee and the CEO may have the ability to adjust the targets with the adoption of the state budget process. *Dr. Bill Pink moved to approve the resolution to adopt the fiscal 2022 scorecard targets, Ms. MacInnes supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 12 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.*

VIII. Mr. Cobbina asked if there was any additional discussion for the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee had a discussion around the anticipated influx of federal funding under the American Rescue Plan, particularly around staff capacity and ensuring the funds are spent efficiently and effectively. Mr. Caldwell asked whether we have looked at capacity to ensure the MEDC is good stewards of this funding. He also asked whether the local partners and local units of government are ready and have capacity to handle the surge in federal money. Mr. Messer responded that he is evaluating staff capacity in anticipation of the funding. Mr. Meador asked if we could work with the State Budget Office to set up navigators to support local units of government that may have capacity issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.